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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/630,808	07/31/2003	Takeshi Iwami	00862.023165.	9790

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EXAMINER	
MCLEAN, NEIL R	

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2625	

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/630,808	IWAMI ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Neil R. McLean	2625	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *17 April 2009*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *4,11,28-30,32,34-37 and 39-42* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *4, 11, 28-30, 32, 34-37, and 39-42* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 4/17/2009 has been entered.

Status of Claims

2. Claims 4, 11, 28-30, 32, and 34-37 and 27-42 are pending in this application.

Claims 4, 11, 28-30, 32, 34-37, and 39-42 have been amended.

Claims 27, 31, 33 and 38 have been canceled.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to claim 4 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Regarding Applicant's Argument and newly added claim limitation (Page 11, lines 6-15):

"According to these features, a user can know when it is safe to disconnect communication between a camera and a printer without interrupting the printing of an

image. In particular, if all data for an image has been received by a printer, information is displayed to indicate that the user can disconnect the communication between the camera and the printer, even if the image has not finished printing. The information is displayed until the user disconnects the communication or until a print completion message is received. Further, if the print completion message is received while the communication is connected, selection of another image to be printed is enabled. Applicants submit that the cited art fails to disclose or suggest at least the above-mentioned features of Claim 4."

Examiner's Response:

Suzuki does not disclose expressly (i) if said reception unit has received a reception end message indicating that all data of the image to be printed was received by the printer, display information indicating that the communication between the digital camera and the printer can be disconnected by a user's operation before completion of a print process, by the printer, of the image to be printed, until the communication is disconnected by the user's operation or said reception unit receives a print completion message indicating that the print process of the image has been completed.

Ozawa discloses (i) if said reception unit has received a reception end message indicating that all data of the image to be printed was received by the printer, display information indicating that the communication between the digital camera and the printer can be disconnected by a user's operation before completion of a print process, by the printer, of the image to be printed, until the communication is disconnected by the

user's operation or said reception unit receives a print completion message indicating that the print process of the image has been completed ([0070] Upon completion of transmission of the print data, the CPU 20 transmits a disconnection request of the communication connection between the digital camera 10 and printer 12 to the printer 12 (S14) to disconnect the communication connection with the printer 12 (S15). [0075] Upon completion of reception of the print data (S28, S31), the printer 12 waits for a disconnection request of the infrared ray communications from the digital camera 10 (S32). Upon receiving a disconnection request of the infrared ray communication connection (S32), the printer 12 disconnects the communication connection with the digital camera 10 (S33).

Suzuki & Ozawa are combinable because they are from the same field of endeavor of image processing; e.g., both send image data to a printer. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to include Ozawa's feature of notifying the client that a disconnect can occur when all of the image data has been received by the printer. The suggestion/motivation for doing so is to allow the user to disconnect any cables or to move on to another task instead of waiting for the printer to finish printing. If the printer had a lot of data to print and the user had to wait until the printer is done printing, considerable time would be wasted by the user. Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Ozawa with Suzuki to obtain the invention as specified.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the

invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 4, 11 and 28-29, 31-35, and 37-38 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Suzuki et al. (US 6,104,886) hereinafter 'Suzuki', in view of Fritz et al. (US 7,324,226), hereinafter 'Fritz'.

Regarding Claims 1-3: (Canceled)

Regarding Claim 4: (Currently Amended)

Suzuki discloses a digital camera (101 in Figures 1 and 2) which has a memory for storing images (ROM 5), can be directly connected (Communication Cable 23 in Figures 1 and 2) to a printer (102 in Figures 1 and 2), and has a function of directly transmitting an image to the printer (Figure 2), comprising:

a selection unit configured to select an image to be printed (The operation switches 12 comprise a reproduction mode switch 12a for instructing display of an LCD 7, and switches 12b and 12c for selecting image frames to be displayed as described in Column 4, lines 29-31) from among images stored in the memory, after communication between the digital camera and the printer is established;

a print instruction transmitting unit (The communication driver 11 is connected to a communication driver 13 of the digital color printer 102 via the communication cable 23, thereby enabling mutual communication as described in Column 4, lines 42-45) configured to transmit, to the printer, a print instruction indicating that the image selected by said selection unit is to be printed (The CPU 14 is connected to a print start switch 22 which is operated by the operator to instruct start of print. The print start switch 22 is disposed, for example, at a position shown in FIG. 2. The print start switch 22 may be provided on the digital camera 101 as described in Column 5, lines 3-7);

an image transmitting unit (communication between the communication drivers 11 and 13 may be established not only by the communication table 23 but also by other conventional communication means such as infrared or radio communication as described in Column 5, lines 11-15) configured to transmit, in response to receiving from the printer a request for transmitting the image to be printed, the requested image to the printer (The CPU 14 of digital color printer 102 receives image file data from the camera 101 as described in Column 5, lines 48-50);

a reception unit configured to receive from the printer a message indicating the status of the printer (LCD Display 7 of the camera); and

a control unit (CPU 4 of Camera) configured to

(ii) if said reception unit receives the print completion message during the communication is connected, enable the selection of another image to be printed by said selection unit (Figure 4b: STEP S19; Once the printing of the one screen is finished, the display on the camera is turned on and the next screen is set in the state selectable by the user; Column 7, lines 54-58).

Suzuki does not disclose expressly (i) if said reception unit has received a reception end message indicating that all data of the image to be printed was received by the printer, display information indicating that the communication between the digital camera and the printer can be disconnected by a user's operation before completion of a print process, by the printer, of the image to be printed, until the communication is disconnected by the user's operation or said reception unit receives a print completion message indicating that the print process of the image has been completed.

Ozawa discloses (i) if said reception unit has received a reception end message indicating that all data of the image to be printed was received by the printer, display

information indicating that the communication between the digital camera and the printer can be disconnected by a user's operation before completion of a print process, by the printer, of the image to be printed, until the communication is disconnected by the user's operation or said reception unit receives a print completion message indicating that the print process of the image has been completed ([0070] Upon completion of transmission of the print data, the CPU 20 transmits a disconnection request of the communication connection between the digital camera 10 and printer 12 to the printer 12 (S14) to disconnect the communication connection with the printer 12 (S15). [0075] Upon completion of reception of the print data (S28, S31), the printer 12 waits for a disconnection request of the infrared ray communications from the digital camera 10 (S32). Upon receiving a disconnection request of the infrared ray communication connection (S32), the printer 12 disconnects the communication connection with the digital camera 10 (S33).

Suzuki & Ozawa are combinable because they are from the same field of endeavor of image processing; e.g., both send image data to a printer. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to include Ozawa's feature of notifying the client that a disconnect can occur when all of the image data has been received by e.g., the printer. The suggestion/motivation for doing so is to allow the user to disconnect any cables or to move on to another task instead of waiting for the printer to finish printing. If the printer had a lot of data to print and the user had to wait until the printer is done printing, considerable time would be wasted by the user. Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Ozawa with Suzuki to obtain the invention as specified.

Regarding Claim 32: (Previously Presented)

Claim 4 teaches the apparatus. Claim 32 is obvious in view of Ozawa and Suzuki because the operation of the apparatus is achieved using the steps of Claim 4.

Regarding Claims 5 – 10: (Canceled)

Regarding Claim 11: (Currently Amended)

Suzuki discloses an image input apparatus (101 in Figures 1 and 2) which has a memory for storing images (ROM 5), can be directly connected (Communication Cable 23 in Figures 1 and 2) to a printer (102 in Figures 1 and 2), and has a function of directly transmitting an image to the printer, comprising:

a selection unit configured to select an image to be printed from among images stored in the memory, after communication between the image input apparatus and the printer is established (The operation switches 12 comprise a reproduction mode switch 12a for instructing display of an LCD 7, and switches 12b and 12c for selecting image frames to be displayed as described in Column 4, lines 29-31);

a print instruction transmitting unit (The communication driver 11 is connected to a communication driver 13 of the digital color printer 102 via the communication cable 23, thereby enabling mutual communication as described in Column 4, lines 42-45) configured to transmit, to the printer, a print instruction indicating that the image selected by said selection unit is to be printed (The CPU 14 is connected to a print start switch 22 which is operated by the operator to instruct start of print. The print start switch 22 is disposed, for example, at a position shown in FIG. 2. The print start switch 22 may be provided on the digital camera 101 as described in Column 5, lines 3-7);

an image transmitting unit (communication between the communication drivers 11 and 13 may be established not only by the communication table 23 but also by other conventional communication means such as infrared or radio communication as described in Column 5, lines 11-15) configured to transmit, in response to receiving from the printer a request for transmitting the image to be printed, the requested image to the printer; and

a reception unit configured to receive from the printer a message indicating the status of the printer (LCD Display 7 of the camera); and

a control unit (CPU 4 of Camera) configured to

(ii) if said reception unit receives the print completion message while the communication is connected, enable the selection of another image to be printed by said selection unit (Figure 4b: STEP S19; Once the printing of the one screen is finished, the display on the camera is turned on and the next screen is set in the state selectable by the user; Column 7, lines 54-58).

Suzuki does not disclose expressly (i) if said reception unit has received a reception end message indicating that all data of the image to be printed was received by the printer, display information indicating that the communication between the image input apparatus and the printer can be disconnected, by a user's operation before completion of a print process, by the printer, of the image to be printed until the communication is disconnected by the user's operation or said rec'ption unit receives a print completion message indicating that the print process of the image has been completed.

Ozawa discloses (i) if said reception unit has received a reception end message indicating that all data of the image to be printed was received by the printer, display

information indicating that the communication between the image input apparatus and the printer can be disconnected, by a user's operation before completion of a print process, by the printer, of the image to be printed until the communication is disconnected by the user's operation or said reception unit receives a print completion message indicating that the print process of the image has been completed ([0070] Upon completion of transmission of the print data, the CPU 20 transmits a disconnection request of the communication connection between the digital camera 10 and printer 12 to the printer 12 (S14) to disconnect the communication connection with the printer 12 (S15). [0075] Upon completion of reception of the print data (S28, S31), the printer 12 waits for a disconnection request of the infrared ray communications from the digital camera 10 (S32). Upon receiving a disconnection request of the infrared ray communication connection (S32), the printer 12 disconnects the communication connection with the digital camera 10 (S33).

Suzuki & Ozawa are combinable because they are from the same field of endeavor of image processing; e.g., both send image data to a printer. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to include Ozawa's feature of notifying the client that a disconnect can occur when all of the image data has been received by e.g., the printer. The suggestion/motivation for doing so is to allow the user to disconnect any cables or to move on to another task instead of waiting for the printer to finish printing. If the printer had a lot of data to print and the user had to wait until the printer is done printing, considerable time would be wasted by the user. Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Ozawa with Suzuki to obtain the invention as specified.

Regarding Claim 37: (Currently Amended)

Claim 11 teaches the apparatus. Claim 37 is obvious in view of Fritz and Suzuki because the operation of the apparatus is achieved using the steps of Claim 11.

Regarding Claims 12-27: (Canceled)

Regarding Claim 33: (Currently Amended)

Claim 27 teaches the apparatus. Claim 33 is obvious in view of Fritz and Suzuki because the operation of the apparatus is achieved using the steps of Claim 27.

Regarding Claim 28: (Currently Amended)

Suzuki discloses the digital camera according to Claim 4,

Suzuki does not disclose expressly wherein said control unit displays information indicating that the user may disconnect the digital camera and the printer and may operate the digital camera for sensing an image in response to receiving the reception end message from the printer.

Ozawa discloses wherein said control unit displays information indicating that the user may disconnect the digital camera and the printer and may operate the digital camera for sensing an image in response to receiving the reception end message from the printer.

([0070] Upon completion of transmission of the print data, the CPU 20 transmits a disconnection request of the communication connection between the digital camera 10 and printer 12 to the printer 12 (S14) to disconnect the communication connection with the printer 12 (S15). [0075] Upon completion of reception of the print data (S28, S31), the printer 12 waits for a disconnection request of the infrared ray communications from the digital camera 10

(S32). Upon receiving a disconnection request of the infrared ray communication connection (S32), the printer 12 disconnects the communication connection with the digital camera 10 (S33).

Suzuki & Ozawa are combinable because they are from the same field of endeavor of image processing; e.g., both send image data to a printer. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to include Ozawa's feature of notifying the client that a disconnect can occur when all of the image data has been received by e.g., the printer. The suggestion/motivation for doing so is to allow the user to disconnect any cables or to move on to another task instead of waiting for the printer to finish printing. If the printer had a lot of data to print and the user had to wait until the printer is done printing, considerable time would be wasted by the user. Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Ozawa with Suzuki to obtain the invention as specified.

Regarding Claim 34: (Currently Amended)

Claim 28 teaches the apparatus. Claim 34 is obvious in view of Fritz and Suzuki because the operation of the apparatus is achieved using the steps of Claim 28.

Regarding Claim 29: (Currently Amended)

Suzuki discloses the digital camera according to Claim 4, however

Suzuki does not disclose expressly wherein the digital camera and the printer are connected by a cable, and said display unit displays information indicating that the cable can be disconnected in response to receiving the reception end message from the printer.

Ozawa discloses wherein the digital camera and the printer are connected by a cable, and said display unit displays information indicating that the cable can be disconnected in response to receiving the reception end message from the printer.

([0070] Upon completion of transmission of the print data, the CPU 20 transmits a disconnection request of the communication connection between the digital camera 10 and printer 12 to the printer 12 (S14) to disconnect the communication connection with the printer 12 (S15). [0075] Upon completion of reception of the print data (S28, S31), the printer 12 waits for a disconnection request of the infrared ray communications from the digital camera 10 (S32). Upon receiving a disconnection request of the infrared ray communication connection (S32), the printer 12 disconnects the communication connection with the digital camera 10 (S33).

Suzuki & Ozawa are combinable because they are from the same field of endeavor of image processing; e.g., both send image data to a printer. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to include Ozawa's feature of notifying the client that a disconnect can occur when all of the image data has been received by e.g., the printer. The suggestion/motivation for doing so is to allow the user to disconnect any cables or to move on to another task instead of waiting for the printer to finish printing. If the printer had a lot of data to print and the user had to wait until the printer is done printing, considerable time would be wasted by the user. Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Ozawa with Suzuki to obtain the invention as specified.

Regarding Claim 35: (Currently Amended)

Claim 29 teaches the apparatus. Claim 35 is obvious in view of Fritz and Suzuki because the operation of the apparatus is achieved using the steps of Claim 29.

6. Claims 30 and 36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Suzuki and Ozawa and further in view of Fritz et al. (US 7,324,226) hereinafter 'Fritz'.

Regarding Claim 30: (Currently Amended)

Suzuki and Ozawa discloses the digital camera according to Claim 4,

Suzuki and Ozawa do not disclose expressly wherein the digital camera and the printer are connected via a wireless interface, and said display unit displays information indicating that the camera can be brought outside a wireless communication area of the printer in response to receiving the reception end message from the printer.

Fritz discloses expressly wherein the digital camera and the printer are connected via a wireless interface (A bi-directional wireless asynchronous connection-less (ACL) connection is established (701) between the processing unit and the printer. This is achieved by means of the printer protocol in the processing unit calling the L2CAP in the within the same unit, requesting the connection to the printer. The printer is connected e.g. by means of the printer address being one of the attributes received. The L2CAP creates the connection and notifies the created connection the printer protocol as described in Column 9, lines 11-19), and said display unit displays information indicating that the camera can be brought outside a wireless communication area of the printer in response to receiving the reception end message from the printer (After performing one or more print jobs or if a break of the print job is requested, the client requests a disconnection of a session defined by the session identifier. Depicted in FIG. 13d, this request is performed by e.g. sending a denoted WPP Disconnect Req message 1313 from the WPP client 1001 to the WPP server 1002 and a response, whether the disconnection is granted or not, is sent in the opposite direction in a denoted WPP Disconnect Req message 1314; Column 11, lines 28-38).

Suzuki, Ozawa & Fritz are combinable because they are from the same field of endeavor of image processing; e.g., both send image data to a printer. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to include Fritz 's feature of a wireless interface. The suggestion/motivation for doing so is to not have to worry about a cable connection. It is cumbersome for a user to have to figure out where to attach a cable, if that cable were present.

Regarding Claim 36: (Currently Amended)

Claim 30 teaches the apparatus. Claim 36 is obvious in view of Fritz and Suzuki and Ozawa because the operation of the apparatus is achieved using the steps of Claim 30.

Regarding Claim 31: (Canceled)

Regarding Claim 38: (Canceled)

Regarding Claim 39: (Currently Amended)

Fritz further discloses the digital camera according to Claim 4, wherein, after the printer sends to the digital camera the reception end message indicating that all data of the image to be printed was received by the printer, the printer continues the print process until the print process for the image to be printed is completed (The entity 501 comprises a stopping device 520 arranged for stopping the print job said stopping device 520 comprises a sending device 521 arranged for sending a message to the printer server, the message comprising a request to stop the

printjob. The stopping device 520 will be used when all data to be printed in a printjob is sent to the printer; Column 6, lines 11-16).

Regarding Claim 40: (Currently Amended)

Fritz further discloses the image input apparatus according to Claim 11, wherein, after the printer sends to the image input apparatus the reception end message indicating that all data of the image to be printed was received by the printer, the printer continues the print process until the print process for the image to be printed is completed (The entity 501 comprises a stopping device 520 arranged for stopping the print job said stopping device 520 comprises a sending device 521 arranged for sending a message to the printer server, the message comprising a request to stop the printjob. The stopping device 520 will be used when all data to be printed in a printjob is sent to the printer; Column 6, lines 11-16).

Regarding Claim 41: (Currently Amended)

Fritz further discloses the method of controlling a digital camera according to Claim 32, wherein, after the printer sends to the digital camera the reception end message indicating that all the images to be printed was received by the printer, the printer continues the print process until the print process for all the images to be printed is completed (The entity 501 comprises a stopping device 520 arranged for stopping the print job said stopping device 520 comprises a sending device 521 arranged for sending a message to the printer server, the message comprising a request to stop the printjob. The stopping device 520 will be used when all data to be printed in a printjob is sent to the printer; Column 6, lines 11-16).

Regarding Claim 42: (Currently Amended)

Fritz further discloses the method of controlling an image input apparatus according to Claim 37, wherein, after the printer sends to the image input apparatus the reception end message indicating that all data of the image to be printed was received by the printer, the printer continues the print process until the print process for the image to be printed are completed (The entity 501 comprises a stopping device 520 arranged for stopping the print job said stopping device 520 comprises a sending device 521 arranged for sending a message to the printer server, the message comprising a request to stop the printjob. The stopping device 520 will be used when all data to be printed in a printjob is sent to the printer; Column 6, lines 11-16).

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Battles et al. (US 2003/0210331) discloses a digital camera comprising an optical system for forming an optical image, an image conversion system responsive to the optical image for storing image data, a user interface configured to direct a processing of the image data and a communications interface for receiving user definition data for configuring an operation of the user interface.

Examiner Notes

8. The Examiner cites particular columns and line numbers in the references as applied to the claims above for the convenience of the applicant. Although the specified citations are representative of the teachings in the art and are applied to the specific limitations within the individual claim, other passages and figures may apply as well. It is respectfully requested that, in preparing responses, the applicant fully considers the

references in its entirety as potentially teaching all or part of the claimed invention, as well as the context of the passage as taught by the prior art or as disclosed by the Examiner.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Neil R. McLean whose telephone number is (571)270-1679. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday 7:30AM-4:00PM EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David K. Moore can be reached on 571.272.7437. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Neil R. McLean/
Examiner, Art Unit 2625

/David K Moore/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2625